

HEALTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 24, 2009

5:30 p.m.

Courthouse

MINUTES:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Carol Cook  
Commissioner Trey Gooch  
Commissioner Jeff Jordan  
Commissioner Will Jordan  
Commissioner Jeff Phillips  
Commissioner Ronald Williams  
Commissioner Bob Bullen, C

OTHERS PRESENT:

Harry Gill  
Jeff Sandvig  
Gary Clardy  
Becky Shelton  
Lisa Nolen  
Don Odom  
Mark King

Chairman Bullen presided and called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. with six members being present at that time.

MINUTES:

"Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Williams, to approve the minutes of the last meeting. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT:

No report was presented from the Health Department.

COMMUNITY CARE REPORT:

Mark King provided the March 5, 2009 minutes of Community Care for the use and information of the Committee. Mr. King advised as to the recent survey, some deficiencies were found but no fines levied. Mr. King advised a painting project will begin soon and they have almost finished a new 3,200 square foot area for records and maintenance storage at \$105,000 paid for by Community Care but will be a Rutherford County asset. Mr. King advised they were in the process of getting bids for demolition of the A, B and C wings. Mr. King advised there is a need for a larger work space for the personal clothes laundry area. Lastly, Mr. King advised the budget request is cut in half from last year's request and will be \$7,500. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Cook moved, seconded by Commissioner Gooch, to approve the Community Care report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Mr. King also advised the child care program is finishing up its fifth year and almost breaks even every month but there are several available vacancies for more children.

SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORT:

Lisa Nolen presented the Special Projects report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner J. Jordan moved, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, to approve the Special Projects report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT:

Harry Gill, Jeff Sandvig and Gary Clardy presented the Board of Education report for the use and information of the Committee first presenting budget amendments of (1) reallocation of budgeted workers' comp funds for the long-term disability insurance that is part of the On-the-Job program that replaced the County's

workers' comp program effective January, 2009. For the General Purpose School budget, \$167,450 is being reallocated from workers' comp to long-term disability and for the Centralized Cafeteria budget, \$3,500 is being reallocated from workers' comp to long-term disability. (2) A transfer of \$80,821 from budgeted line items in Maintenance of Plant and Regular Capital Outlay in General Purpose School budget to Phase V, 2006 Building Repairs in the School Building Fund to be used for the Siegel High re-purified irrigation water project. (3) A transfer of \$40,499 from Phase V, 2006 Repairs to fund the balance of the Siegel High re-purified irrigation water project. The LaVergne Primary HVAC project has been completed and has \$39,969 available. The Oakland/Riverdale paving has been completed and \$530 is available. These funds along with the \$80,821 transferred from the General Purpose School Fund will fund the entire \$121,320 project and (4) Education Capital Projects amendments including \$91,743 from the General Purpose Schools Fund in projects that were processed within this fund. The GPS side of the amendments have already been approved. The second amendment budgets \$182,551 from the Education Capital Projects Fund Balance that was not spent in Fiscal 2008 because the budgeted projects were not complete. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Gooch, to (1) amend \$167,450 from workers' comp, Account #72310-513 to long-term disability, Object Code 299, in the various functions in the General Purpose School budget and to amend \$3,500 from workers' comp, Account 72310-513 to long-term disability, Centralized Cafeteria fund as presented. (2) Transfer \$80,821 from budgeted line items in Maintenance of Plant and Regular Capital Outlay in the General Purpose School budget as presented to Phase V, 2006 Building Repairs in the School Building Fund to be used for the Siegel High re-purified irrigation water project. (3) Amend \$39,969 from the LaVergne Primary HVAC project and \$530 from the Oakland/Riverdale paving to the Siegel High re-purified irrigation water project in Phase V, 2006 Repairs and (4) Amend \$91,743 in transfers in revenue and \$182,551 Maintenance and Repair Services for buildings as presented. This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote."

The Committee was next provided new information on the proposed middle schools advising the School Board has a firm bid for the DeJarnett Middle School and the lock and key budget is \$21,086,977 or \$5,616,223 less than the \$26,703,200 budget previously established. The pure building cost came in at \$13,625,000 or \$85.16 per square foot.

The Committee was reminded the bid for the pure building cost at Buchanan came in at \$14,169,000 or \$88.56 per square foot. The savings to budget for both middle schools (including the future high school land/site costs) is \$8,323,923. The savings on the pure building cost for both schools is \$5,822,910 when compared to Rockvale Middle School.

As to the 9,000 seat issue, the Committee was provided a report on portables and occupancy with pictures of Buchanan, Kittrell and Lascassas. Mr. Clardy provided information from the Council of Educational Facilities Planners International on calculating school capacity and advised there are theoretically 204 total seats available.

Superintendent Gill advised reasons to build now include kids get the middle school experience; this takes care of problems at Central Middle; allows Central Middle to be converted to a magnet school and allows 23 portables to be eliminated without having to purchase more portables in 2010.

Mr. Gill further advised if the schools are built there is no tax consequence this year with 4¢ required next year to build the two schools. When the economy improves, then the cost of

construction will increase.

The Committee was provided a savings comparison to the Rockvale School built two years ago as well as Buchanan Middle and Oakland Middle. Mr. Gill advised to build the two schools amounts to about \$5 per month on a \$150,000 home.

Mr. Gill advised by not building now, the County is squandering up to \$10,000,000 and he felt he has presented a good case on why the schools are needed now and financial reasons to do so.

Chairman Bullen advised this is not money leaving the area but money creating jobs in the area and buying supplies locally.

Mr. Clardy advised there are more savings than being seen because the savings on site work is not added in but they wanted to show a comparison of pure building costs.

Chairman Bullen advised he would ask the County Mayor to allow a report on the new information at the Commission meeting.

Commissioner W. Jordan advised by postponing the high school, this does not deny a student the high school experience as that student will just be rezoned. But by not building middle schools, this denies those students in certain areas of the County from having the middle school experience and these are the last areas without middle schools.

"Commissioner W. Jordan moved, seconded by Commissioner J. Jordan, to proceed with construction of two middle schools and accept the bids."

In discussion, Commissioner J. Jordan advised he felt the Commission needed the opportunity to vote on the savings.

Commissioner Williams advised the additional information is good but one of the eleven that voted to not build could bring the matter up on the floor of the Commission if they wanted to discuss again and he was not sure how this worked bringing up from Committee again.

Commissioner Gooch questioned if the County proceeded to build the school to get the cost savings would the School Board be open to delaying the opening to save that expense and keep the required tax increase to a minimum or alternatively hold up building for six months. Mr. Gill advised he would like to take advantage of the historically good bids. Commissioner Gooch asked that Mr. Gill report back to the School Board on the possibility of building the schools but delay opening in consideration of further developments.

"The motion to proceed with construction of two middle schools and accept the bids passed by roll call vote with Commissioners J. Jordan, W. Jordan, Phillips and Bullen voting "yes"; Commissioners Cook and Williams voting "no" and Commissioner Gooch passing."

The Committee discussed whether the motion should be sent to the Budget Committee or Commission. Finance Director Nolen suggested the motion be sent to Budget Committee to have a capital outlay note resolution prepared. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Cook, to forward the prior motion to the Budget Committee. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

There appearing to be no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Bullen declared the meeting adjourned at 7:12

p.m.

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BOB BULLEN, Chairman